

Getting the Data

Past, Present, and Future of
School-based Youth Surveys in
Washington State

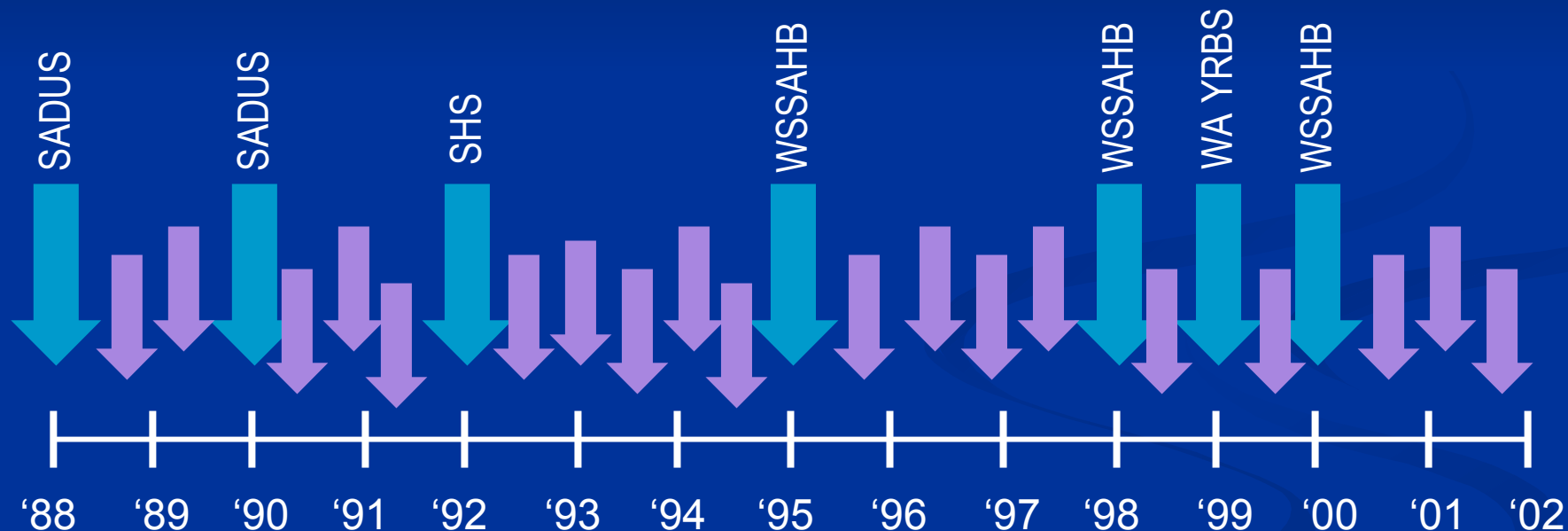
Presentation Objectives

- Describe brief history of School-based Surveys in Washington
- Summary of challenges to school-based surveys
- Progress toward development of a single school-based survey: the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS)
- Description of the HYS
- Next steps for implementation of the HYS

Several Nationally Used School-based Youth Surveys

- Monitoring the Future (MTF)
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
- Communities that Care (CTC)
- Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)
- PRIDE Survey

Previous Administrations of School-based Surveys in Washington

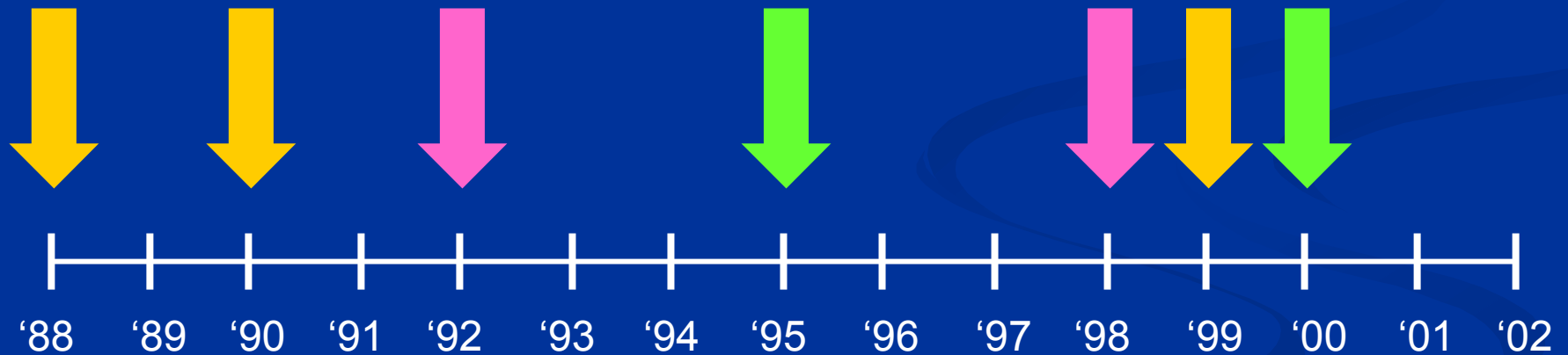


WSSAHB = Washington State Survey of Adolescent Health Behaviors

WA YRBS = Washington Youth Risk Behavior Survey

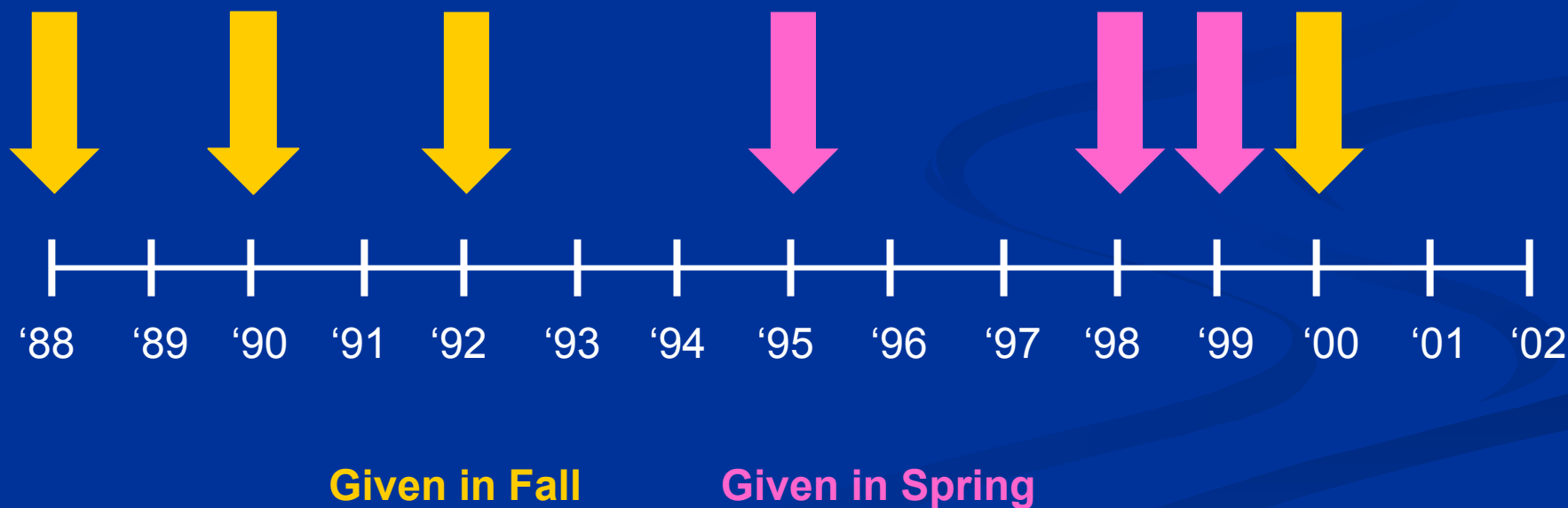
SADUS = Student Alcohol & Drug Use Survey

Past Washington Surveys: Primary Content



Health-risk Focused **Risk & Protective Factor Focused** **Combination**

Past Washington Surveys: Timing



“The administration of [multiple] surveys increases the burden on local school districts and other organizations that use data on adolescent health.”

“We recommend that federal agencies supporting school-based surveys should collaborate in their approaches.”

*Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson
&
Governor Gary Locke*

*From a letter to the Centers for Disease Control, US Department of
Education, and Centers for Substance Abuse Prevention
November 2000*

Joint Survey Planning Committee

- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Division of Alcohol & Substance Abuse, DSHS
- Department of Health
- Office of Community Development
- Governor's Family Policy Council
- RMC Research (survey contractor)

Identified Agencies' and Constituent Interests

- Describe School, Community, Family, and Peer-Individual Risk & Protective Factors
- Monitor health habits, risks, and outcomes
- Gather state-level data in a consistent way year-to-year
- Support gathering local-level data for planning/assessment and evaluation

Introducing the “Healthy Youth Survey”

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Implementation:** A single statewide survey of youth will be administered supported by all state agencies
- **Advantages:** Increase efficiency & reduce burden of surveys
- **Disadvantages:** Challenges coming to agreement for content

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Sampling:** A simple, random sample for the state, county samples when appropriate
- **Advantages:** Easiest to manage, communicate, recruit statewide
- **Disadvantages:** Local communities need “piggybacks” for local-level data; information to describe race/ethnic minorities will depend on local recruitment in key areas

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Administration:** Survey given in the fall of even years (2002, 2004, 2006...)
- **Advantages:** Predictable administration; avoid conflict with spring school testing; local partners have data for spring grantwriting/needs assessment activities
- **Disadvantages:** Length of time between surveys; decreased comparability to national YRBS (given in spring)

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Administered to 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders**
- **Advantages:** Data collection across grades, including younger grades; watch “cohorts” of youth over time
- **Disadvantages:** More difficult to compare to national YRBS, except for 10th and 12th grades specifically

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Survey Layout:** Booklets with one-page tear-off answer sheet
- **Advantages:** Increased speed for scanning and delivering back results; easier to translate survey to different languages
- **Disadvantages:** Possibly impact completion rates, increase number of mistakes (??)

Features of the “Healthy Youth Survey”

- **Survey Type: Two-form Interleaved Layout**
- **Advantages:** Manage length of survey with breadth of information
- **Disadvantages:** Only “core” items available to small school buildings

Risk & Protective Factor Data

*Consistent with CTC/MTF Survey
Development led by DASA/DSHS & OSPI*

WSSAHB Questionnaire

- Demographics
- Alcohol, Tobacco, other drugs
- School risk/protective factors
- Community risk/protective factors
- Peer-Individual-Family risk/
protective factors

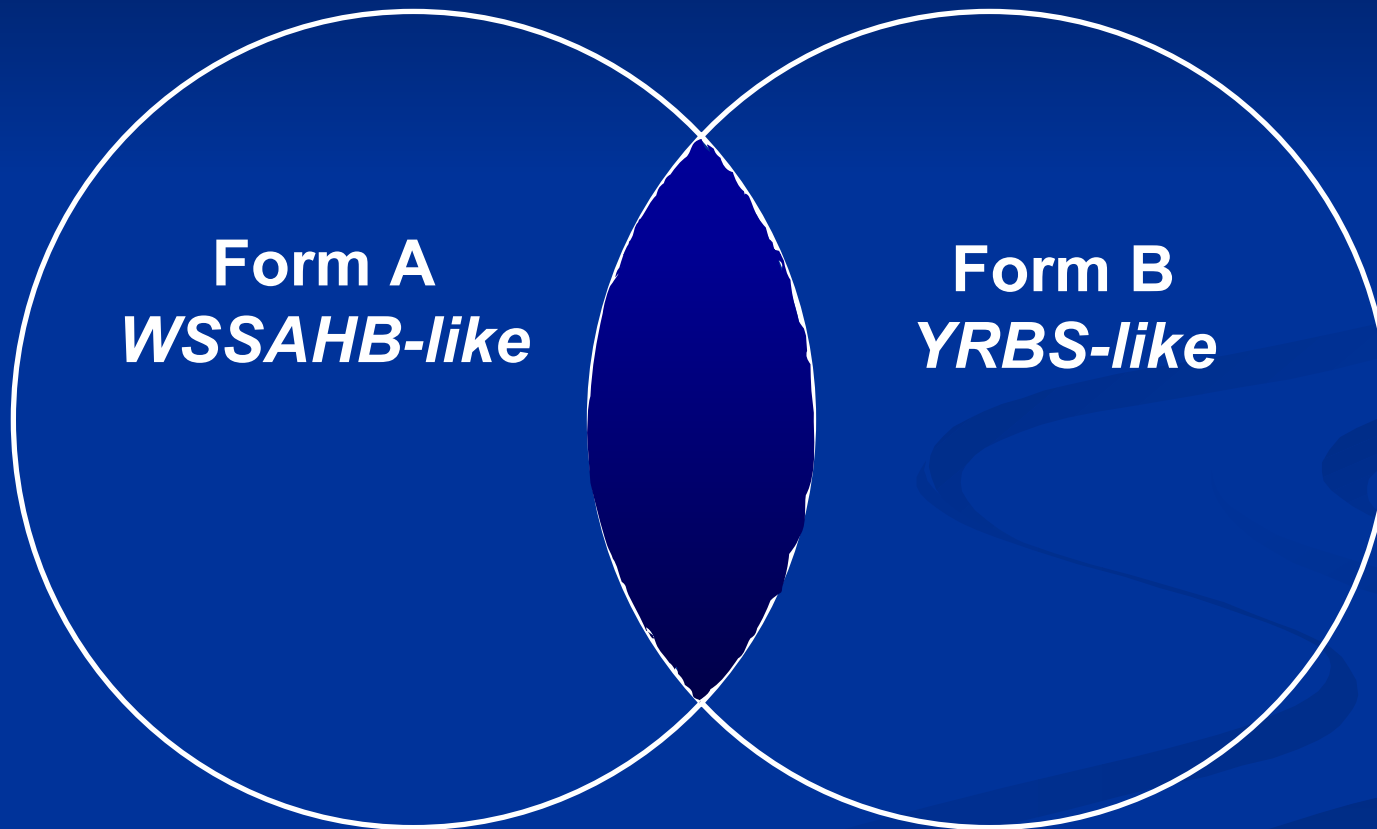
Youth Health Behavior Data

*Consistent with National YRBS & YTS
Development led by DOH*

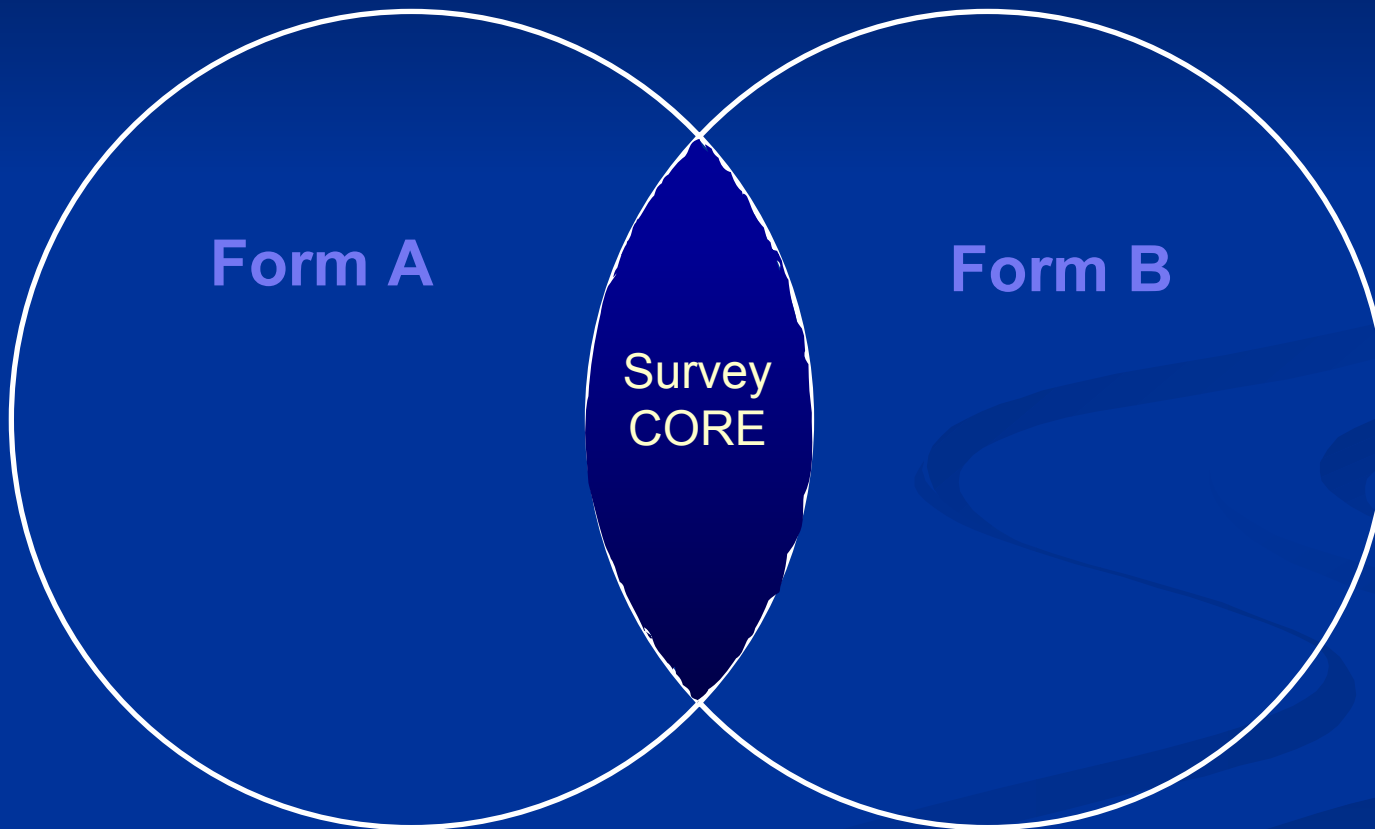
YRBS Questionnaire

- Demographics
- Alcohol, Tobacco, Other drugs
- Nutrition
- Physical Activity
- Safety Behaviors (Helmets, Seatbelts)
- Mental Health/Depression/Suicide
- Additional Tobacco Indicators

Getting the Best of Both



Getting the Best of Both



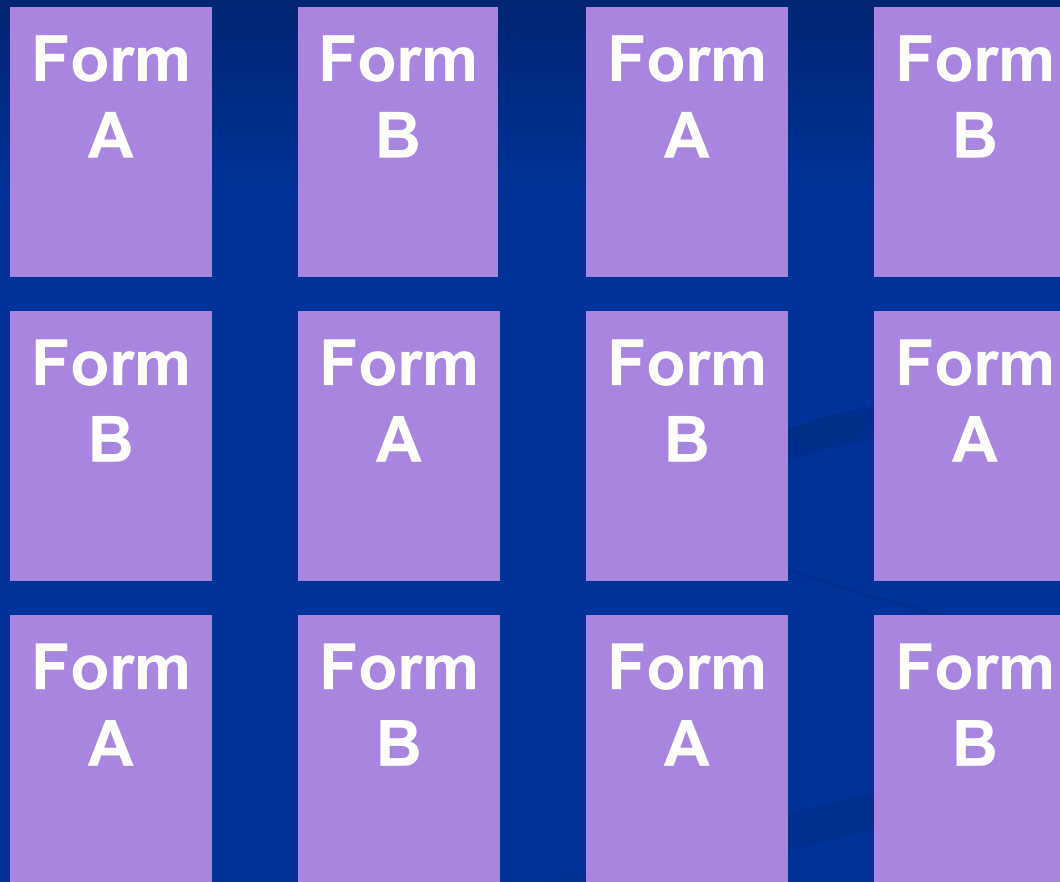
“Core” Survey Items

- Demographics
- 30-day and lifetime Alcohol, Tobacco, other Drug Use
- Key violence-related questions
- School-specific asset questions

Forms are “Interleaved”

Students can't tell the difference

Administration is seamless



“Getting the Data”

Fall 2002 Healthy Youth Survey

Getting Statewide Results

- A statewide random sample is drawn for 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades among all public schools in the state with more than 15 students in the grade
- Will set a goal for representative participation
- Special recruiting efforts focused in historically non-participating areas
- Results distributed to local partners in Feb 2003, and a more in-depth analytic report in May 2003

“Getting the Data”

Fall 2002 Healthy Youth Survey

Getting County Results

- A county-based random sample of buildings is drawn for 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades in larger counties
- In medium/small counties, a census is required
- Goals will be set for representative participation (% students)
- Results will be provided to county prevention coordinators, Educational Service Districts in Feb 2003

“Getting the Data”

Fall 2002 Healthy Youth Survey

Getting School District Results

- All schools in a district must generally participate (sampling not generally possible)
- Will set a goal for representative participation (% students)
- Results provided to District Superintendents only in Feb 2003

“Getting the Data”

Fall 2002 Healthy Youth Survey

Getting Building-level Results

- A building must have at least 15 or more valid, completed surveys to receive core item results for a particular grade
- Small buildings will receive core item results only for a particular grade (items currently being finalized)
- A goal will be set for representative participation (% students)
- Results mailed to District Superintendents in Feb 2003

“Getting the Data” in 2002

How do schools sign up?

- School principals and District superintendents to be notified by letter of open recruitment in early 2002
- Schools complete a brief form indicating numbers of students, identifying a survey contact, and must commit to mailing of parent letters (other direct costs will be paid by the state) and survey protocols
- Regional recruitment coordinators identified in late 2001 and trained in Feb 2002, to “monitor the pulse” of school sign-ups (may be from ESD or LHJ)
- **Deadline for sign-up: June 30, 2002**

“Getting the Data” in 2002

How can community leaders help?

- *Early 2002:* Check with your regional recruitment contact and/or visit the recruitment website to find out what schools have signed up
- *To encourage participation:* Work with your regional recruitment contact to find the best way to communicate your support of participation to key school/district administrators
- *Potential strategies:* Directly communicate support via letter/phone, mobilize volunteers and parents to communicate support of survey to school/district administrators or key officials

“Getting the Data” in 2002

Immediate Next Steps

- The “Healthy Youth Survey 2002” Advisory Committee will be convened Oct 16, 2001 to oversee the process
- State & county samples drawn – October 2001
- Pilot survey in targeted areas – November 2001
- Apply for Human Subjects Review Board approval – December 2001
- Final decisions for participation goals – December 2001
- Finalize content of survey questionnaire (Form A & Form B) – January 2002